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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,050	11/13/2003	Ta-Yuan Lee	LEE0025-US	7138

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MICHAEL D. BEDNAREK
SHAW PITTMAN LLP
1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/706,050

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Examiner

HOAN C. NGUYEN

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4,5,14,15 and 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,6-13 and 16-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/28/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: Foreign patent document

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 and 11 based on the Response filed on 11/22/2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Therefore, this is Final action.

Claims 4-5, 14-15 and 20 were withdrawn from consideration, claims 1-3, 6-13 and 16-19 are elected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-3 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yano et al. (JP20020068).

Yano et al. teach a display apparatus comprising:

Claims 1 and 11:

- a panel having a first area and a second area B1 and B2;

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- a first light source L1 for illuminating said first area, said first light source independently and selectively entering into a first state and a second state different from said first state;
- a second light source L2 for illuminating said second area, said second light source independently and selectively entering into a third state and a fourth state different from said third state;
- a processor 16/17/18 for determining states of said first light source and said second light source.

wherein

- said first light source and said second light source are independently controlled so that said first area (ON state) is brighter than said second area when said first light source is in said first state and said second source is in said fourth state (OFF state). The back light with light sources of fluorescent tubes that divide into fields of ON and OFF sequence; therefore,

Claims 2 and 12:

- said first state is an ON state, and said second state is an OFF state.

Claims 3 and 13:

- said third state is an ON state, and said fourth state is an OFF state.

Claim 10:

- said display apparatus comprises a liquid crystal display device.

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2. Claims 1-3 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Whittaker et al. (US5657004).

Whittaker et al. teach a display apparatus comprising:

Claims 1 and 11:

- a panel 140 having a first area and a second area (transparent portions 1 and 2);
- a first light source for illuminating said first area, said first light source independently and selectively entering into a first state and a second state different from said first state;
- a second light source for illuminating said second area, said second light source independently and selectively entering into a third state and a fourth state different from said third state;
- a processor (a controller 46 including integrated circuit 44) for determining states of said first light source and said second light source.

wherein

- said first light source and said second light source are independently controlled so that said first area (ON state) is brighter than said second area when said first light source is in said first state and said second source is in said fourth state (OFF state). The first light source is ON responding to first audio segment while the second light source is OFF, then the first light source is OFF when the second audio segment starts with the second light source turning ON; the sequence is repeated.

Claims 2 and 12:

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- said first state is an ON state, and said second state is an OFF state.

Claims 3 and 13:

- said third state is an ON state, and said fourth state is an OFF state.

Claim 10:

- said display apparatus comprises a liquid crystal display device.

Claims 6-7 and 16-17:

- a first light guide plate (transparency 24 considers as light guide) for reflecting and scattering light (reflecting surface on cavities 143/144/146/147 of light source) provided by said first light source so that light uniformly illuminates said first area, wherein said first light guide plate further comprises a light guide structure for reflecting light provided by said first light source to said first area.

Claims 8-9 and 18-19:

- a second light guide plate (transparency 24 considers as light guide) for reflecting and scattering light provided by said second light source (reflecting surface on cavities 143/144/146/147 of light source) so that light uniformly illuminates said second area, wherein said second light guide plate further comprises a groove surface for reflecting light provided by said second light source to said second area.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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3. Claims 1-3 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (US 20040114396A1).

Kobayashi et al. teach (Fig. 1) a display apparatus comprising:

Claims 1 and 11:

- a panel having a first area 41 and a second area 42;
- a first light source 30 for illuminating said first area, said first light source independently and selectively entering into a first state and a second state different from said first state;
- a second light source 31 for illuminating said second area, said second light source independently and selectively entering into a third state and a fourth state different from said third state;
- a processor (the control circuit 16) for determining states of said first light source and said second light source.

wherein

- said first light source and said second light source are independently controlled so that said first area (ON state) is brighter than said second area when said first light source is in said first state and said second source is in said fourth state (OFF state). The back light with light sources of fluorescent lamps that turn ON and OFF sequence; therefore,

Claims 2 and 12:

- said first state is an ON state, and said second state is an OFF state.

Claims 3 and 13:

- said third state is an ON state, and said fourth state is an OFF state.

Claim 10:

- said display apparatus comprises a liquid crystal display device.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-2296. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim H. Robert can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HOAN C. NGUYEN
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

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ANDREW SCHECHTER
PRIMARY EXAMINER